Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGUI 01834 251042Z ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PRS-01 PA-01 DHA-05 USIA-06 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 /038 W

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E.O.11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR CT US

SUBJ: TRAVEL ADVISORY FOR JOURNALISTS

REF: STATE 200537

1. EMPEROR BOKASSA ANNOUNCED TO THE GATHERING OF MINISTERS AND DIPLOMATIC CORPS JULY 21 IN BERENGO THAT AMERICAN JOURNALISTS WERE PROHIBITED FROM VISITING THE CAE, AND THAT THEY SHOULD NOT TRY TO COME IN THE GUISE OF TOURISTS (SEE BANGUI 1524). ALTHOUGH PROHIBITION HAS NOT BEEN PUBLISHED BY GOCAE, BELIEVE IT SHOULD BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY. RECEIPT OF A VISA FROM A CAE EMBASSY IS NOT SUFFICIENT INDICATION THAT AN AMERICAN JOURNALIST WILL NOT HAVE PROBLEMS ON ARRIVAL UNLESS VISA ISSUANCE HAS BEEN EXPLICITLY CLEARED WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY IN BANGUI. WOULD RECOMMEND THAT AMERICAN JOURNALISTS NOT VISIT WITHOUT EITHER A VISA SO ISSUED OR WRITTEN APPROVAL FROM FOREIGN MINISTRY OR A MINISTER AT THE IMPERIAL COURT.

2. BELIEVE THAT REFTEL ADVISORY SHOULD BE EXPLICITLY AMENDED TO SAY THAT THE GOCAE HAS PROHIBITED AMERICAN JOURNALISTS FROM VISITING THE CAE AND THAT EXCEPTIONS CAN BE MADE ONLY BY DIRECT APPLICATION TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY OR THE IMPERIAL COURT. SMITH

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Message Attributes

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